



National Home Office
CROATIAN FRATERNAL UNION
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

ZAJEDNICAR

— ENGLISH SECTION —
Established November 6, 1929. Published weekly
By The

Croatian Fraternal Union of America
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Editorial Office, 3441 Forbes Street, Pittsburgh 13, Pa.
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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1957

Be Grateful

ON THE MORROW, Thursday, Nov. 28, 1957, Americans will celebrate Thanksgiving Day at a time in history when millions of them "never had it so good."

How good? In the words of President Dwight D. Eisenhower's simple, but deeply touching 1957 Thanksgiving Day Proclamation which we published last week: —

"As a Nation we have prospered; we are enjoying the fruit of our land and the product of our toil; we are making progress in our efforts to translate our national ideals into living realities; and we are at peace with the world, working toward that day when the benefits of freedom and justice shall be secured for all mankind."

Is that — as they say — bad? Wouldn't countless millions of other people the world over be openly grateful to Divine Providence if they could say but one half as much for their country?

Of course, but . . .
• There is still another way to drive home the meaning of Thanksgiving Day, the need for personal humility on this by now sadly over-commercialized holiday. It is simply this.

The story is told of a destitute man who couldn't afford a pair of shoes. His inner bitterness knew no end; his hatred for his sad lot in life no bounds.

Until he met another even more unfortunate creature of God — a man without feet, but not without hope for the better.

Moral? Look up on this Thanksgiving Day of 1957 with a truly grateful heart.

You may not be sitting on top of the world, but neither do you hunger or thirst. And you are free to do what you please. What more do you want from life?

Overseas In '60!

WE ARE PUBLISHING today, on page 10, the final installment of the Minutes covering the Sept. 30-Oct. 4, 1957, meetings of the Society's Supreme Board.

Interesting to note in the Minutes of the last meeting of the Board is the fact that considerable discussion centered around the next Membership Campaign to be undertaken for the commonweal of the Croatian Fraternal Union.

In the end, it was decided 1) that the next such drive for new adult and juvenile members be a two-year affair, running through 1958 and 1959; 2) that the Grand Prize Award be a trip to Yugoslavia; and 3) that the Award Winners be given the opportunity to visit the land of their forebears sometime in 1960.

This by unanimous vote of all fifteen members of the Supreme Board.

• Equally as interesting to note is that the forthcoming Membership Campaign will mark the third such undertaking in the long history of the Society.

The first Campaign to call for a Grand Prize Award of a trip to Yugoslavia was conducted in 1946 and resulted in the enrollment of 6,297 new members and the writing of \$5,195,700 in new and increased insurance business.

The months that followed were heavy with international tension and the Grand Prize Award Winners of those post-World War II days didn't visit Yugoslavia.

Ten years later — 1956 — saw the Society conducting another Campaign calling for a post-drive safari to Yugoslavia.

And again success was to befall the Croatian Fraternal Union as its Field Workers came through with 4,949 new enrollments and \$4,137,000 in protection.

American-Yugoslav relations being exceptionally good at the time, no less than 130 U.S.A. and Canadian members of the Society came to visit Yugoslavia following the 1956 Campaign.

• So, with the outcome of the 1946 and 1956 drives to go by, the Supreme Board was only "doing what comes naturally" when it decided to pin Yugoslavia to its 1958-59 Campaign kite tail.

We hope to be around in 1960 to report on the success of the next such venture!

Thank You, Sir

OBVIOUSLY IN AN expansive mood, Kuzma Yezerinac is waxing eloquent on page 7 of this issue anent the celebration Nov. 2-3, 1957, of the 40th Anniversary of the Croatian Social and Educational Society "Sloga" of Monessen, Penna.

In fact, bro. Yezerinac — for years a member of CFU Lodge 194 and a proud founder and member of "Sloga" — is throwing or chids left and right at some of the many, many people who played roles in the tremendously successful outcome of that two-day celebration of recent vintage.

Among them the Editors of the ZAJEDNICAR, who all too seldom come in for at least a pat on the back for their promotion of the major gatherings of our people.
• Says bro. Yezerinac of the keepers of the Official Organ's 12 pages: —
"As in the past, so it is at present, our Editors play a very important part in our fraternal life, and it is the duty of the membership of the CFU, and particularly Delegates at the Conventions, to seriously consider their valuable service on its merits."
"In retrospect, our Official Organ, the ZAJEDNICAR, has never been better edited toward progress and unity in the Croatian Fraternal Union and for our people in America and Canada."

That's what the man said!

• In all seriousness, we firmly believe that many of bro. Yezerinac's fellow members agree with his outlook on the Editors of the Society's Official Organ.

That they never get around to expressing the same sentiments in letter — or article — form can be traced to a common human frailty, that of finding it impossible to say "thank you" in writing.

Be that as it may, thank you, bro. Yezerinac, for your kind thoughts.

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More Bows

LAST WEEK WE thanked Gov. Orville Freeman of Minnesota and Gov. Goodwin Knight of California for issuing proclamations Oct. 28, 1957, in honor of the foreign-born citizens of their States.

Today we are grateful for two more bows in the direction of our people.

The first came from the office of Mayor George Christopher of San Francisco, who has set aside Nov. 23-30, 1957, as "Kolo Week" in his famed metropolis.

And the other — from Gov. G. Mennen Williams, who has proclaimed Dec. 8, 1957, as "Tamburitza Day" in Michigan.

Thank you, gentlemen.

No, we can't recommend that our members in your parts of the Nation would do well to vote for you the next time you have to face the unpredictable electorate.

The Croatian Fraternal Union's by-laws frown on such endorsements.

But we can — and do — say that our people in the City of San Francisco and the State of Michigan should be very proud of the fact that you are their leaders.

• GOD HAVE mercy on the sinner Who must write with no dinner, No gravy and no grub,

No pewter and no pub, No belly and no bowels,

Only consonants and vowels.

— John Crowe Ransom



In Passing

ACTUALLY, there is no reason why the Russians should not come up with Sputnik first. No nation has a monopoly of brains, intelligence, curiosity, or devotion to great causes. We have confused our devotion to a high standard of individual living with an assumption that clothes maketh the man.

A sloppy-looking Einstein in baggy trousers, black cardigan, yellow shoes and unkempt hair could be a tremendous intellect. His mind was given to him by God, the Divine Intelligence; his clothes he bought in a store. — George E. Sokolsky

Fruits Of Faith: - A Thanksgiving Lesson

Infant Nation In Great Experiment

HAIFA, Israel — Just how much can you accomplish when all you have at your disposal is the will to work hard — and faith?

A long look at the State of Israel and its people gives you some idea.

Every day they come — doctors from Hungary, lawyers from Egypt, scholars from Yugoslavia, children from North Africa. Down from the planes they come with wonder in their eyes that they should reach this day.

Their possessions are rope-tied packages, a battered suitcase or so . . . and abiding faith in their future in a land they can call their own.

Their faces bear the weariness of the journey and something more—the tight-lipped, worn and cautious look of people who have lived for months and years in a hostile, threatening environment.

Of these 400,000 are refugees from Arab lands.

Learn To Smile Again

Now these very faces that seem as if they had almost forgotten how to smile begin to break out into the broadest of grins.

In a moment almost, the immigrants are engulfed by relatives and friends who have been waiting. Sister finds sister, brother finds brother, sons and daughters find fathers and mothers.

They are met with shouts of joy. They cry with tears of gladness. They cling to each other, weeping, laughing and shaking their heads in disbelief. The lost ones have come home.

And in a year — or less — it is home. Within 12 short months these strangers from other lands till Israeli soil, run Israeli factories, work Israeli mines.

A Great Problem

But during that year or so, they represent one of Israel's chief problems.

As a result of its policy of unrestricted immigration, Israel's population has more than tripled since 1948. This year alone, 100,000 immigrants are expected. This would be equivalent to the United States accepting 16 million newcomers.

These newcomers require housing, education and jobs. The skills needed by a young country are the basic ones — farming, factory work, mining.

Yet less than 2% of the new arrivals have any agricultural experience and more than half of them lack vocational training. The burden of settling and training them falls, of necessity, upon the government.

But these immigrants become Israelis fast. For they feel that the best way to thank their new country for the democratic way of life they enjoy is to work as hard as they can.

(To Be Continued)

Milwaukee Area Moms Keep Rolling On High

MILWAUKEE, Wis. — The CFU Mothers Club had a wonderful turnout for their First Fall Card Party held on October 27.

We are very sorry that we had to turn those away that came after 2:00 p.m., and we cordially invite them to attend our next party.

A very special note of thanks is extended to those that donated the lovely door prizes and served on the committee.

Mitzi Knafl



NOT ALL IS "beer and skittles" these days in the infant life of Israel, but the people of that nation are determined to make good on the international scene if left to live in peace. Pictorially, top left, Israeli girl with Sten driving tractor on farm; top right, looking down on the modern city of Haifa; lower left, preparing land in the arid Negev for farming; lower right, lighting candles for the Feast of Lights.

Kum Ray J. Madden, United States Congressman

1907 - The Gary Story - 1957

GARY, Ind. — Outstanding civic, fraternal and political leaders, as well as members and friends of the Croatian Sons, Lodge 170 of the Croatian Fraternal Union, came in such numbers for the 50th Anniversary of the founding of Lodge 170 that the Croatian Center was filled to capacity and the last minute sale of over one hundred tickets at the door caused a shortage of food which was quite embarrassing to all concerned.

The committee had asked for reservations and had checked the sale of tickets, but, as mentioned, the last minute sale of tickets at the door swamped the food situation.

So Gary found itself in the same situation as Detroit the previous week. We apologize to our guests who possibly did not receive the full course served.

Aside from the above mentioned, the Anniversary was a huge success and the program was very interesting, according to the comments after the close of the day Oct. 27, 1957.

The singing of the "Star Spangled Banner" and "Ljupa Naša" by the Croatian

By SYLVIA NIKSIC
Secretary Lodge 170

Glee Club "Preradovic" opened the program, following which the Welcome Address was given by the Lodge President, Nicholas J. Erbesti, and then a Response Address by Sylvia Niksic, Secretary of the CFU Supreme Board of Trustees and Lodge Secretary of 170.

Thereupon, Z. I. Kerhin presided as Master of Ceremony, for which he is well qualified.

He's A Gifted Orator

The guest of honor and speaker of the day on this historic occasion was Brother Martin Krasich, CFU Sup-

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On The Eve of "Tamburitza Day" In Michigan

Croatian Tamburitza Dates Back To Days of 591 A.D. - I

By John Prepolec
Member — Lodge 351

DETROIT — The designation by Governor G. Mennen Williams of Sunday, Dec. 8, 1957, as "Tamburitza Day" in the State of Michigan brings to mind the all too little known history of this time honored instrument of our people.

The tamburitza (tamburica, in Croatian) is a stringed instrument which has a pear-shaped body and somewhat resembles a mandolin.

However, in tone quality — and power — it is superior to the mandolin.

Story Of Three Slavs

The instrument dates back to 591 A.D., when, according to Croatian history, Byzantine King Marcius met three unarmed men playing tamburitzas.

Amazed, the King asked: "What are you holding in your hands?"

To which the men replied: "We are Slavs and we live along the Western Sea (Adriatic Sea). We play tamburas. In our country there is no iron and we live in peace and do not know the meaning of war bugles."

The history of our people also shows that during the Middle Ages when the Croats were preparing to battle the Turkish invasion of Christian Europe they had as their armor not only implements of war, but tamburitzas as well.

Those were the battles which Pope Leo X had in mind when he declared in

STATE OF MICHIGAN

Executive Office — Lansing

PROCLAMATION

Tamburitza Day

Among the Croatian peoples of the world great joy and inspiration has come from the Croatian national musical instrument, the Tamburitza.

The Croatian Board of Trade, a non profit organization in the State of Michigan, dedicated to promoting the cultural heritage of the Croatian people, has undertaken the mission of presenting and interpreting the finest elements of Croatian culture to the American people.

As the Croatian national instrument, the Tamburitza is one of those elements of Croatian culture that the American people should come to know and enjoy. The Tamburitza has been adopted as a musical instrument by collegiate organizations in America colleges and universities.

The collegiate groups have given Tamburitza concerts before thousands of enthusiastic audiences throughout the United States. The proceeds from these performances have gone into Scholarship Funds that have enabled hundreds of young Americans to complete their college education.

THEREFORE,

I, G. Mennen Williams, Governor of the State of Michigan, do hereby proclaim Sunday, December 8, 1957, as

TAMBURITZA DAY

in Michigan and urge all our people to acquaint themselves at appropriate concert and occasion with the Tamburitza, an important cultural heritage of the Croatian people that vitality enriches American musical culture.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Michigan, this eighteenth day of November, in the Year of Our Lord, One Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty-seven, and of the Commonwealth the One Hundred Twenty-first.

G. Mennen Williams
GOVERNOR

BY THE GOVERNOR:
James M. Hare
SECRETARY OF STATE

1519 A.D. that Croatia was "Antemurale Christianitatis" — the Bulwark of Christianity.

Six Basic Instruments

Six basic instruments comprise the internationally famed tamburitza family: bisernica, kontrašica, brač, bugarija, čelović, and berde.

The bisernica and kontrašica are the smallest members of this musical family. The bisernica usually is the lead instrument and carries the melody, while the kontrašica follows with the counter melody.

In the absence of the bisernica, the brač carries the melody and is the lead instrument in the orchestra.

Brač II and III complete the harmony unit.

The bugarija is the chording instrument and čelović the cello. The berde is the bass.

It is interesting to note that under this system the melody unit is strung with four strings, and all four strings of each instrument are tuned to the same pitch.

(To Be Continued)

USA

November 27, 1929

By Stephen F. Brkich
— English Editor —

PITTSBURGH — The year 1929, which saw the birth Nov. 6 of the English Section of the ZAJEDNICAR, arrived on the U.S.A. scene much like any other annum in the Nation's history — with a bang.

Millions of Americans were to greet that new year nursing a pair of hangovers; one of a political nature, the other resulting from the "liquidity" of the era.

Their political headache stemmed from the Presidential Election of Nov. 1928, which saw Republican Herbert Hoover whip Democrat Al Smith at the polls on the



heels of the foulest, most shameful political campaign in the history of America.

Everything — including the proverbial kitchen sink — was thrown into the campaign arena that year as the world watched the greatest democracy on earth wallow in the swirl of "dirty" politics.

Down With Everybody!

• Used against the late Al Smith were lies of the first magnitude, lies which even Hitler couldn't improve upon 11 years later in 1939 when he started World War II.

They said, of Smith, that the Pope in Rome would be the real ruler of America if the Democratic nominee ever got to sit in the White House. Smith happened to be a staunch "Mick."

That led to the vilification of all who practiced the Catholic faith.

Next, they argued that Smith was a "Hunkie," a "Nigger" and a Jew lover. So every true-blue, 101% American started spitting on every neighbor who was unfortunate enough to be of foreign, colored or Jewish extraction.

Then the hated Ku Klux Klan stepped in to further terrorize the already terrorized supporters of Smith by knifing them in the back in countless civic and other ways. For shame!

But it all worked out. Hoover was the victor with 21,392,190 votes (444 electoral votes), Smith the bloodied but unbowed loser with 15,016,443 votes (87 electoral votes).

The real losers — a prejudiced, bigoted post-election United States citizenry which was taken for the greatest political hayride in the annals of the Nation.

Bathtub Gin Formula

• As for that "liquidity" hangover which plagued America back in 1929 as the Nation ushered in a new year, Those were the Prohibition days; the days of the speakeasy, moonshine, etc.

And bathtub gin was on the drink hit parade.

The formula: — Two quarts 190 proof alcohol; an ounce of glycerin; 2 quarts of water; a few drops of juniper. Stir with pancake flipper. Serve when ready (and with a prayer).

Three or four good hookers of bathtub gin and you were off to the races!

What, No Television?

• One thing Americans couldn't foresee as 1929 made its debut was the depression handwriting on the wall.

So they ate, drank everything in sight, and were given to merriment.

That was the year when the Oakland was the car dream of every family and balloon tires were the talk of the auto industry.

If you had that kind of money, "peanuts" today, you could buy a fine 1929 super-heterodyne radio for \$185 and be envied — if not hated — by every family in the block.

Or, if you were a daring female, you smoked Melachrios on the side and danced the Charleston in your stocking feet, the latter generally after a few good, stiff swigs of "moonie" or a bottle of ether-juiced home brew.

Hot zigzety!

(Americans - P. 11)